



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

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**SBMA CHAIRMAN, FIL-AM MAYOR HONORED AT THE 24TH ANNUAL CHICAGO
FILIPINO-ASIAN AMERICAN HALL OF FAME 2018**

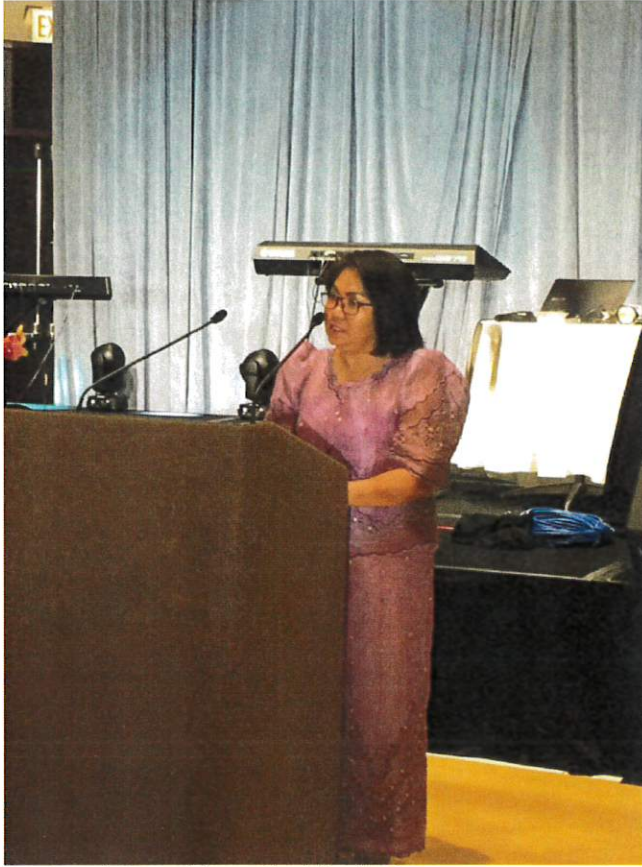
Twenty (20) dedicated and exemplary Filipinos and Americans were honored for their contribution to the Filipino community in Chicago at the 24th Annual Chicago Filipino-Asian American Hall of Fame organized under the auspices of the Chicago Philippine Reports TV (CPRTV) and the Via Times News magazine. The award ceremony, a culmination of the month-long celebration of the Filipino-American History Month in Illinois, was held on November 10, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) Chairman and Administrator Wilma Eisma (public service), Mayor Ron Falconi, Fil-Am Mayor of Brunswick, Ohio (public service); and Mr. Jerry Joyce, an American, (public service) were three of those recognized that evening. Other awardees were Sgt. Ronald Bongat (police empowerment) , Prof. Robert Boyer(education), David & Jane Cannon (humanitarian), Elena de Jesus (nursing), Marilou Dichosa (entertainment), Geraldine GAden (nursing), Geraldine Guidote Hernandez (entrepreneurship), Winnalynn Kantaris (law), Gloria Key (religion), Ginalene Lopez (homehealth entrepreneurship), Jennifer Roan (finance/accountancy), Rowena Salas (Via woman of the year), Joel Sebag (music), Harold Sy (medicine), Nick Vera Perez (VIA man of the year), and Salina Vest (film), and Rommel RAmel Yarcia (nursing leadership).

Philippine Consul General Gina Jamoralin delivered her inspirational message paying tribute to the dedication and example showed by the awardees in various fields of endeavors. SBMA Chairman Atty. Eisma delivered an impassioned speech narrating the challenges faced by SBMA in the early years after the US forces left Subic naval base at the height of the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo and how the Filipinos rose to the challenge of converting the former US naval base to a successful international free port economic zone guided by the vision of then Olongapo Mayor Dick Gordon, now a Senator and the sense of mission and hardwork of the early Subic volunteers, such as Atty. Eisma.

Mayor Falconi of Brunswick, Ohio enjoined the Filipino-Americans to be active in political processes in their respective communities to reflect the voice of the Filipinos in America.

Ms. Veronica Leighton, Publisher of Via Times and CPRTV Executive Producer and organizer of the annual award ceremony thanked all the sponsors and awardees for the success of the event which is now on its 24th year.



Consul General Jamoralin delivering her message.



Consul General Jamoralin, Ms. Leighton (in red) and the awardees



Atty. Wilma Eisma, receiving her award.



Mayor Ron Falconi receiving his award.